

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), TU

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S TRIP TO TURKEY

FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT FROM DAILY NEWS BRIEFING  
TUESDAY MARCH 28:

TRATTNER: AND I HAVE ONE OTHER ANNOUNCEMENT,AS FOLLOWS:  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER, ACCOMPANIED  
BY MATTHEW NIMETZ, COUNSELOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND GEORGE  
VEST, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS,  
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LEFT WASHINGTON IN THE EVENING OF MARCH 27 FOR TURKEY, THE  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. IN  
ANKARA THEY WILL MEET WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT TO DISCUSS  
NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND BILATERAL MATTERS AND ECONOMIC  
ISSUES. THEY WILL BE CONSULTING SENIOR WEST GERMAN AND  
BRITISH OFFICIALS ON ALLIANCE ISSUES. THEY ARE EXPECTED  
TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON AT THE END OF THE WEEK.

QUESTIONS ON THAT FIRST.

Q: WELL, WHAT MATTERS ARE SO URGENT THAT THEY WOULD LEAVE WITHOUT PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT AND DURING A TIME WHEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASN'T AROUND?

A: WELL, DICK, WE ARE MAKING THE ANNOUNCEMENT NOW. THEY LEFT, AS THE STATEMENT SAYS, LAST NIGHT, AND THIS IS THE FIRST ORGANIZED OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE HAD TO ANNOUNCE IT.

Q: WAIT A MINUTE. WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE ANNOUNCED IT YESTERDAY? WHAT WAS WRONG WITH SAYING THEY WERE GOING?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND -- THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS OUT OF TOWN. WHAT'S THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO THIS? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

A: I AM NOT SAYING THAT THERE IS AN URGENCY ATTACHED TO IT. THEY DID LEAVE YESTERDAY, LAST NIGHT, AND I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR EXPLANATION TO OFFER YOU AS TO WHY WE DIDN'T ANNOUNCE IT YESTERDAY.

Q: WAS IT KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME THAT THEY WERE GOING?

A: I DON'T KNOW.  
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Q: WELL, WOULDN'T THAT DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS SOME URGENCY, IF YOU KNEW THAT?

A: IT'S POSSIBLE, BUT WE ARE ANNOUNCING IT NOW AND I AM GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE YOU WITH THAT EXPLANATION, HOWEVER UNSATISFACTORY.

Q: WHO IS IN CHARGE NOW?

A: THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE IS RICHARD COOPER, WHO IS THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.

Q: JOHN, CAN YOU SAY WHETHER THE VISIT TO TURKEY IS IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER THAT THEY MAY HAVE TO LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR THE MILITARY SECURITY AND HAS THE DCA COME THROUGH?

A: JUAN, AS THE STATEMENT SAYS, THEY ARE GOING TO BE DISCUSSING BILATERAL MATTERS IN ANKARA AND THE INITIATIVE OF THE ANKARA STOP WAS OURS. THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY AGREED THAT A VISIT NOW WOULD BE USEFUL AND THAT IS AS FAR

AS I CAN TAKE YOU ON IT.

Q: JOHN, DOES BILATERAL MATTERS INCLUDE THE CYPRUS QUESTION?

A: I DON'T KNOW THAT YOU COULD CALL THE CYPRUS QUESTION A BILATERAL MATTER, BUT AS FAR AS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH

TURKEY ON THE SUBJECT GOES, YES, I AM SURE IT WILL BE.

Q: IN OTHER WORDS, THEY MIGHT BE OR WILL BE DISCUSSING CYPRUS?

A: I DON'T WANT TO EXCLUDE ANYTHING. I THINK CYPRUS WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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PROBABLY COME UP, YES.

Q: WHEN DOES THE ADMINISTRATION PLAN TO SUBMIT THE DCA OR ASK CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE DCA ON TURKEY?

A: ROY, I DON'T KNOW THAT WE HAVE FIXED A DATE FOR THAT AND I WOULD RATHER NOT TRY TO GUESS FOR YOU.

Q: WELL, THE TURKS SAID, I THINK LAST WEEK OR THE WEEK BEFORE, THAT IF IT WASN'T SUBMITTED BY A CERTAIN DATE, THEN THEY WOULD CONSIDER OTHER ACTION.

DID YOU HAVE ANY REACTION TO THAT STATEMENT?

A: NO. I DON'T THINK AT THE TIME WE DID HAVE A REACTION TO IT.

I AM AWARE THAT THE TURKS SAID THAT, BUT I DID NOT THEN AND DON'T HAVE NOW A REACTION.

Q: JOHN, LET ME PHRASE IT ANOTHER WAY. MAYBE YOU CAN TAKE THIS QUESTION. YOU HAVE BEEN DANCING AROUND THIS FOR MONTHS NOW.

DOES THE UNITED STATES NOW UNDERSTAND THERE TO BE AN APRIL 30 DEADLINE SET BY THE TURKS ON THE DCA?

A: JIM, I THINK WHAT I OUGHT TO DO HERE IS TAKE YOUR QUESTION AND THEN GET YOU AN ANSWER.

Q: OKAY. IF YOU WOULD. COOPER

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